Washington, DC – Congressman Sam Farr (D-CA) issued the following statement after President Obama nominated Leon Panetta to lead the Department of Defense.

“As our nation battles in two wars and a military intervention, while seeking to rein in defense spending, I have no doubt that Leon Panetta is the right choice to serve in this very challenging role as head of the Department of Defense. At every step of his accomplished career, he has proven to be a capable and strong leader that delivers results.

Leon has embodied the incredible spirit of public service, and I confident that he will continue to serve our nation’s defense interest with the same passion and dedication that has been the hallmark of his career.”